



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

FEDERAL PROSECUTOR, DEA & ATF AGENTS ADDED TO JEFFERSON CITY OFFICE

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that an additional Assistant U.S. Attorney has been added to the staff of the Jefferson City office, which also now houses two agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and two agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration.

“I want to personally thank the Drug Enforcement Administration for their presence in central Missouri, and we welcome these federal agents to share our office space,” Graves said. “Their presence reflects the good working relationship between our respective agencies as we join forces to combat crime in central Missouri. With the additional investigative resources provided by the ATF and the DEA, coupled with the increase in our own staff, the United States is better positioned to make an even more significant impact on drug trafficking, firearm violations and other federal crimes.”

Graves made the announcement during today’s meeting of the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee. William J. Renton, Special Agent in Charge of the St. Louis Field Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration, was unable to attend the Central Division subcommittee of the LECC meeting in Columbia, Mo., but was represented by Assistant Special Agent in Charge Shawn A. Johnson and Resident Agent in Charge Dan Stitt. The St. Louis Field Division encompasses Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and the southern half of Illinois.

“DEA is committed to working with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies,” Renton said, “in order to support a unified enforcement effort targeting illegal drug trafficking in Missouri.”

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The two DEA agents are new to the Jefferson City office. A second ATF agent has joined another agent who has been working from the Jefferson City office for about a year.

The Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee was formed as a result of the bi-partisan Task Force on Violent Crime, which closely examined federal, state, and local law enforcement needs. The LECC is designed to foster cooperation among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, Graves said, better equipping them to prevent violent crime, drug use, and gang activity.

Participating in the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee are the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the United States Marshals, the Secret Service, the U.S. Postal Service, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and numerous local law enforcement agencies.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow